

PRIME MINISTER

Mr. James Grant

The above is the Executive Director of UNICEF. He is visiting this country on 16/17 December.

You were asked earlier whether you wanted to see him, and decided that he should be seen by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

I have since been telephoned by Sir Bernard Ledwidge, Chairman of UNICEF, in the United Kingdom. He believes that UNICEF is distinct from all other UN specialised agencies, and that there is a strong case for you to see Mr. Grant. He points out that:-

- (a) Britain has always been one of the chief contributors to UNICEF.
- (b) We are a member of its Executive Board.
- (c) It is a charity, financed by voluntary contributions.
- (d) It is one of the few remaining specialised agencies which is still controlled by the West.
- (e) Others, like the Australian Prime Minister and the Italian President, have recently received Mr. Grant.

I promised to put this to you again. I still do not think the case is very strong. It would be different if Mr. Grant had something which he could discuss only with you. But that is not the case.

Will you stick to your view that the FCO should see him?

2 December, 1982.

1600
Thursday 16 Dec
①
No - I had better
A.S.C. see him - but -
no other UN agency
- - -



Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

10 December, 1982

*No letter necessary. I have
spoken to Sir Bernard Ledwidge
twice on the telephone.*

*A-J-C. 10.
u*

Dear John,

UNICEF

Thank you for your letter of 6 December. Arrangements have been made for Mr Grant to call on the Prime Minister at 4 pm on Thursday 16 December. We shall provide a brief early next week.

It is not clear whether a reply has been sent to Sir Bernard Ledwidge's letter of 11 November, but in case it has not I enclose a draft.

Yours ever

J E Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
Private Secretary
10 Downing Street

DRAFT: minute/letter/teleletter/despatch/note

TYPE: Draft/Final 1+

FROM: Prime Minister

Reference

DEPARTMENT:

TEL. NO:

SECURITY CLASSIFICATION

- Top Secret
- Secret
- Confidential
- Restricted
- Unclassified

TO: Sir Bernard Ledwidge KCMG
 United Committee for UNICEF
 46-48 Osnaburgh Street
 LONDON NW1 3PU

Your Reference

Copies to:

PRIVACY MARKING

.....In Confidence

CAVEAT.....pleased

SUBJECT:

Thank you for your letter of 11 November. I am pleased to confirm that the Prime Minister will be able to see Mr Grant at 4 pm on Thursday 16 December. Unless you advise me otherwise, I shall assume that you will accompany him.

Enclosures—flag(s).....

Prime Minister

UNICEF

Nov 82

110 DEC 1982



FIVE SW

Alan -
For you?
Kay
7/12



Prime Minister

10 DOWNING STREET

From the Private Secretary

6 December, 1982

UNICEF

Would you please refer to my letter of 29 November about the visit of Mr. James Grant, Executive Director of UNICEF, to the United Kingdom on 16/17 December.

In the light of further views which have been expressed to the Prime Minister about this visit, Mrs. Thatcher has now decided that she will see Mr. Grant and we propose that this meeting should take place at 1600 hours on Thursday, 16 December. The Prime Minister would not wish this to be regarded as a precedent for receiving the heads of other UN specialised agencies. She believes that UNICEF is sufficiently distinct and has a sufficiently close connection with the United Kingdom for it to receive special treatment.

I should be grateful if you would let me know whether the above timing is convenient for Mr. Grant and if you could let us have a brief in due course.

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

SW

Kay

Is this yours?

Surf

ADJ 30711

29 November 1982

UNICEF

Thank you for your letter of 26 November.

The Prime Minister will not be able to see Mr. James Grant when he visits this country next month. She hopes, however, that he will be received in the Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

A. J. COLES

John Holmes, Esq.,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office.

da



10 DOWNING STREET

John,

Sir Bernard ~~Lawrence~~^{Ledwidge},

Chairman of UNICEF in the UK,
rang today asking for either
Sir A Parsons or yourself.

He wanted to state the case for
the Prime Minister seeing James
Grant the Executive Chairman
of UNICEF who has written
in to PM seeking a meeting
in the middle of December.

He said that the Australian PM
had seen Mr Grant and felt
that the Prime Minister should do
like-wise.

If you had time he said that

PTO

he would like you to speak
to him tomorrow ~~in~~ morning
His telephone number is Paris
7058026.

Steve

29/11/82



GH
Prime Minister

Mr. Coles
will you reply?
Cl.
29/11
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

London SW1A 2AH

Do you wish to
see Mr Grant. FCO
do not recommend
it. Cl. 26/11

26 November 1982

Dear John,

1. He should be
in F.O. not

Caroline Stephens wrote to Alison Walters on 15 November about Mr James Grant's visit to this country in December.

We regard UNICEF as one of the better of the United Nations development organisations; and it is of course the one with an obviously humanitarian task and with the high reputation with the general public. It has an effective field programme in sectors such as mother and child care, basic health services etc, which is one of the priorities in our own aid programme. We are currently members of its Executive Board and the fourth largest contributor of its regular programme, and we play an active part in shaping its policies and programmes. We also have good relations with UNICEF Headquarters in New York and Geneva, and with the UK Committee for UNICEF of which Sir Bernard Ledwidge is currently Chairman (and of which HRH the Duchess of Kent is active Patron).

Mr Grant will be in London on business of some significance for UNICEF, and he has been received by Heads of State or Heads of Government on his recent travels on behalf of the Fund. He is very appreciative of the UK's support for UNICEF, and of the role which we play in the Executive Board.

On the other hand we see advantage in pursuing a consistent line on access of senior UN officials to senior British Ministers. It is not likely that the Prime Minister would wish to see the heads of FAO, UNESCO or UNDP, all larger UN bodies than UNICEF in the development field. Unless the Prime Minister particularly wishes to see Mr Grant, therefore, we would not advise her to do so. Mr Marten will in any case see Mr Grant.

Yours ever
John Holmes

(J E Holmes)
Private Secretary

A J Coles Esq
10 Downing Street

Postage and Communications Office

London W1R 3AB

226 NOV 1962



James GRANT
Exec Dir of UNICEF

File 500
26/11

① 29/11

15 November 1982

The Prime Minister has been asked to see the Executive Director of UNICEF, Mr. James Grant, during his visit to this country in the middle of December.

I attach a copy of a self-explanatory letter and would be grateful to receive your advice as soon as possible as to whether this is an engagement the Prime Minister should take.

CAROLINE STEPHENS

Mrs. Alison Walters,
Foreign and Commonwealth Office

Br

file

BSP

15 November 1982

I am writing on behalf of the Prime Minister to thank you for your letter of 11 November.

This is receiving attention and a reply will be sent to you as soon as possible.

CAROLINE STEPHENS

Sir Bernard Ledwidge, K.C.M.G.

Bo

F.E.R. Butler, Esq.
Principal Private Secretary
The Prime Minister's Office
10 Downing Street
London S.W.1

Patron:
HRH The Duchess
of Kent
President:
The Countess of
Mar and Kellie
Chairman:
Sir Bernard Ledwidge KCMG
Treasurer:
The Lord Hirshfield FCA

United Kingdom
Committee for
UNICEF
United Nations
Children's Fund
46-48 Osnaburgh Street
London NW1 3PU
Telephone:
01-388 7487
Cable:
UNICEF London
Telex:
262284 quote Mon Ref 2817

Director:
Robert D Smith

Registered Charity
no. 207595

11 November 1982

Our reference:
UKC/13/2



Dear Private Secretary,

I am writing on behalf both of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and its National Committee in the United Kingdom to ask whether the Prime Minister would be good enough to receive the Executive Director of UNICEF, Mr. James Grant, during his forthcoming visit to Britain.

Mr. Grant is coming here in mid-December to present at a press conference UNICEF's Annual Report for 1982 on 'The State of the World's Children'. We expect him to be here on the afternoon of 16 December and the whole of the following day and to give his press conference at 1500 hours on 16 December. Thereafter, the rest of his programme is flexible and he would be happy to come to Downing Street at any time that suited Mrs. Thatcher. His purpose would be to thank her for Britain's support of UNICEF and to speak of the Fund's future programmes.

Her Majesty's Government have always been among the principal contributors to and supporters of UNICEF and are at present a member of its governing body, the Executive Board. If the Prime Minister could find time to receive Mr. Grant, the occasion would fittingly symbolise this country's continuing interest in UNICEF and would be a great encouragement to us all.

I should perhaps add that Mr. Grant was received by Mr. Malcolm Fraser during his recent visit to Australia and expects to call on President Mitterand while in France next month.

We very much hope that the Prime Minister will be able to accede to this request.

Yours sincerely,
Bernard Ledwidge,

Sir Bernard Ledwidge, KCMG